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FROM:

**Controlling DoD Organization: Assistant
Chief of Staff for Force Development
[Army], Attn: FOR-OT-UT, Washington, DC
20310.**

AUTHORITY

**GDS per DoD 5200.1-r; Adjutant General's
Office [Army] ltr dtd 29 Apr 1980**

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20310**

IN REPLY REFER TO

AGDA (M) (17 Sep 70) FOR OT UT 702281 6 October 1970

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, Headquarters, 62d Maintenance Battalion, Period Ending 30 April 1970 (U)

AD511565

SEE DISTRIBUTION

1. Subject report is forwarded for review and evaluation in accordance with paragraph 4b, AR 525-15. Information of actions initiated as a result of subject report should be forwarded to ACSFOR OT UT within 90 days of receipt of covering letter.
2. Information contained in this report is provided to insure appropriate benefits in the future from lessons learned during current operations and may be adapted for use in developing training material.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

Kenneth G. Wickham

KENNETH G. WICKHAM
Major General, USA
The Adjutant General

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 62D MAINTENANCE BATTALION (DS)
APO SAN FRANCISCO 96318

AVCA-QN-PK-MNT-O

10 May 1970

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned 62d Maintenance Battalion (DS)
Period ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR - 65 (R2)

THRU: Commanding Officer, 45th GS Op, ATTN: AVCA-QN-PK-OO APO 96318

Commanding General, United States Army Support Command, Qui Nhon,
ATTN: AVCA-QN-OO-H APO 96238

Commanding General, 1st Logistical Command, ATTN: AVCA-QP-O APO 96348

Commanding General, United States Army, Vietnam, ATTN: AVHGC-DST APO 96357

Commander-in-Chief, United States Army, Pacific, ATTN: QPOP-OT APO 96558

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development, Department of the Army,
Washington, D. C. 20310

1. (C) Section 1. Operations: Significant Activities

a. The Battalion was engaged in mission operations for eighty-nine days of the reporting period.

b. Key personnel changes during the reporting period were as follows:

(1) On 18 February 1970, CPT Wilson E. DeBose assumed command of the 149th Light Maintenance Company (DS) from CPT Robert A. Corprow who departed for CONUS.

(2) On 21 February 1970, CPT Larry L. Hatheway assumed command of Headquarters and Main Support Company replacing CPT Arthur H. Woytek who assumed duties as SL.

(3) On 25 February 1970, LTC John M. Manso assumed command of the 62d Maintenance Battalion (DS) from LTC George A. Armstrong who was reassigned to the 26th General Support Group.

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(4) On 23 March 1970, 1LT James N. Richardson Jr. assumed the duties as Adjutant replacing 1LT Stuart G. Mandel who assumed duties as Unit Supply Officer, Headquarters and Main Support Company.

c. Personnel, Administration, Morale, and Discipline

(1) Personnel status as of 30 April 1970 is attached as Enclosure 1.

(2) The 62d Maintenance Battalion has experienced an increased loss of personnel with few replacements. During the reporting period there were no officer replacements and realignment of the assigned officers and enlisted men was accomplished to obtain better utilization in critical MOS areas.

(3) Cross attachments between companies of the Battalion previously authorized by VOCO are now made after issuing orders and an IBM card system has been established to provide more effective personnel control.

(4) The Battalion Promotion Standing Operating Procedures were completely rewritten resulting in more specific guidelines for promotion procedures within subordinate units.

(5) A continuing effort is being made to reduce and contain the use of drugs in the Battalion. An effective program of command emphasis and troop information has resulted in a marked decrease in known abuses.

(6) The Logistical Center swimming pool was completed and opened on 15 February 1970. Personnel are utilizing the pool to maximum capacity.

(7) The 62d Maintenance Battalion NCO and EM Open Mess has been renovated to provide more seating capacity. Additions were made to the two bars and kitchen facilities were increased to provide the capability of serving hot meals.

(8) Morale, discipline, conduct, and living conditions are at their highest levels.

d. Operations

(1) The Battalion's production for the reporting period was excellent in all supported commodities. The production summary is attached as Inclosure 2.

(2) Base development activities continued on a self-help basis. Outside storage locations of the Battalion Consolidated Technical Supply were improved utilizing 900 cubic yards of crushed rock and emplacement of 15,500 square foot of steel (PSP) drainage. Other Battalion areas were considerably improved by utilization of approximately 1000 cubic yards of crushed rock. The road encircling the Battalion cantonment area (0.6 miles) was improved by grading and treatment with diluted liquid asphalt.

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(3) The 510th Engineer Company (MDS) was relocated from the 62d Maintenance Battalion to USASUPCOM, Saigon. The advance party departed Pleiku 29 January 1970 and the main body departed 17 February 1970. The direct support maintenance mission of the 510th Engineer Company included heavy quartermaster and engineer equipment, generators, and refrigeration. This mission was absorbed by the 794th Maintenance Company with no loss of continuity by instituting an extensive cross-training program.

(4) The 294th CS Heavy Material Storage Detachment was assigned to the 62d Maintenance Battalion by GO 243, Headquarters, US Army Support Command, Qui Nhon, dated 6 March 1970, with an authorized strength of one (1) warrant officer and ten (10) enlisted men. The detachment is responsible for the hand receiving, maintenance, and prescribed load list repair parts for 287 items of Airmobile Engineer Equipment. There is presently one (1) warrant officer assigned. The enlisted strength is provided from the assets of the 62d Maintenance Battalion as it has been since May 1969 when the Battalion assumed responsibility for this mission. The detachment is scheduled to be deactivated on 25 June 1970 in accordance with USARPAC General Order 93.

(5) Serviceable excess (314 tons) in unbroken depot packs with an inventory value of \$553,948.87 was retrograded to US Army Depot, Qui Nhon, during the reporting period. An additional 4127 lines of serviceable excess were reported for disposition instructions during March 1970. Disposition instructions have been received on 2417 of these items which are being packed for shipment.

e. Training

(1) Thirty-one (31) hours of mandatory training subjects, as outlined by USASUPCOM, QN, Reg 350-1, dated 20 June 1969, were scheduled for all personnel within the Battalion. All newly arrived personnel received In-Country training at Battalion level due to the withdrawal of the 4th Infantry Division from the Pleiku area.

(2) To increase the proficiency of radio-telephone operators throughout the Battalion, a class on techniques of operation and operator maintenance for the AN/VRC 12 family of radios was held at Battalion level.

(3) Project Buddy continued throughout the reporting period with over thirty (30) ARVN soldiers receiving second and third echelon training in maintenance of engineer, signal, ordnance, and artillery equipment.

(4) Continued requests by higher headquarters for fire support has enabled the Battalion mortar crew to become extremely proficient in engaging targets with increasing accuracy.

f. Intelligence

(1) The Security and Recon Platoon continued in their mission by conducting sweeps outside the compound perimeter. Daybreak sweeps following all indirect fire attacks have proven extremely beneficial in gathering intelligence concerning enemy methods and capabilities.

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g. Logistical

The Battalion has submitted several requests for chemicals for defoliation of vegetation within the tactical perimeter wire. Vegetation must be eliminated before the upcoming monsoon season to insure observation and unblocked fields of fire.

h. Inspections

(1) Headquarters and Main Support Company received its Annual General Inspection by US Army Support Command, Qui Nhon, on 13 February 1970. A satisfactory rating was received.

(2) Headquarters and Main Support Company received its 1st Logistical Command Maintenance Management Inspection on 20 February 1970. A satisfactory rating was received.

(3) The 149th Light Maintenance Company (DS) received its 1st Logistical Command Maintenance Management Inspection on 18 March 1970. A satisfactory rating was received.

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2. Section 2, Lessons Learned, Commanders Observation, Evaluation, and Recommendation.

a. Personnel: None

b. Intelligence: None

c. Operations:

ITEM: Pre-passing of Fringe Requests with the NCR-500 System.

(1) OBSERVATION: When a fringe request is processed by DSU's equipped with the NCR-500 and no magnetic ledger has previously been prepared for that item, a magnetic ledger must be prepared prior to posting of the demand. During the normal sequence of events in preparing the up-date cycle, the request has been edited for valid FSN, unit of issue, and other required data and has been key-punched prior to discovering that no magnetic ledger has been previously prepared on that item. Due to the additional editing and length of time required to prepare a magnetic ledger, the process of preparing magnetic ledgers is not a part of the cyclic update process but is normally performed by this DSU on a weekly basis. In this situation, high priority requests are normally pre-passed and the low priority requests are not processed until the ledger has been prepared. Pre-passing of the high priority requests requires the key-punching of a passing action requisition for forwarding and a post request to be used for posting the demand. No status card is created to advise the customer until the demand is posted to the magnetic ledger.

(2) EVALUATION: A program for the NCR-500 that would utilize the key-punched customer request as input and create as output a passing action requisition, a post-post demand card and a customer status card would eliminate two manual key-punching actions for the high priority requests that must be pre-passed and allow all requests in this category to be pre-passed regardless of priority. In addition, a status card could be furnished to the customer up to seven days sooner.

(3) RECOMMENDATION: That computer systems command develop a program for the NCR-500 that would utilize a key-punched customer request as input and create a passing action requisition, a post-post demand card and a customer status card as output.

d. Organization: None

e. Training:

ITEM: Personnel Training.

(1) OBSERVATION: Textile Repairmen (MOS 43J20), although school trained in the repair of clothing and textile items, are not receiving adequate instruction on proper maintenance of their tools and equipment. Maintenance which the operator can perform must be taught by the OJT method at the unit to which he is assigned. This method of corrective action has been initiated in this unit because trained sewing machine repairmen are available in a sister unit.

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(2) EVALUATION: The extensive use of a sewing machine is part of a textile repairman's occupation. While the machine is operating they are very capable of fabricating and/or repairing that material brought to them. However, when a sewing machine "jumps" time or develops other minor faults, the operator is totally lost as to what action he can take to overcome this difficulty.

(3) RECOMMENDATION: That this training be included in the formal Program of Instruction for textile repairmen at the service school.

f. Logistics

ITEM: Distribution of Technical Publications.

(1) OBSERVATION: Pinpoint distribution of Commel Technical Publications are presently limited to radiac and fixed radio equipment, field radio equipment, and communication security equipment. Command distribution is used to disseminate all other categories of Commel Technical Publications.

(2) EVALUATION: The incorporation of radar, electronic test and measuring equipment, switchboards, telephones, etc., under the pinpoint system of supply would greatly enhance the capability of any unit to remain current concerning its required technical publications. The receipt of these publications through command channels is at best, spasmodic. Continuous research of the Publications Center Bulletins and DA Pamphlet 310- (series) is required to maintain a reasonably current technical library.

(3) RECOMMENDATION: A reappraisal of the pinpoint system should be undertaken to determine the feasibility of expanding coverage of Commel equipment. The use of pinpoint distribution should effect considerable savings as the necessary publications would reach the proper user and eliminate "syphoning" of nice-to-have publications by other agencies.

g. Communications: None

h. Materiel:

(1) ITEM: Generator Set 3KW, 400Cy, Model HF310MD, FSN 6115-075-1638.

(a) OBSERVATION: This DSU has experienced several failures of the Generator Exciter, FSN 6115-658-0519, of the 3KW, 400Cy Generator.

(b) EVALUATION: This failure is apparently being caused by continued operation of the generator after failure of the coupling plate FSN 6115-859-2410. The continued use of the generator after this failure is causing the exciter field to become unserviceable due to excessive wear. The extremely long lead time for these replacement parts is causing these badly needed generators to have long periods of down time.

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(c) RECOMMENDATION: As a short term measure it is recommended that special emphasis be placed on providing adequate replacement parts for these generators particularly the generator exciter and coupling plate. For a final solution it is recommended that a more durable coupling plate be used for the 400Cy generator. At present, the same coupling plate is used for both the 60Cy and 400Cy generators, the latter having a higher RPM and more torque applied to the plate. This headquarters has submitted an appropriate Equipment Improvement Recommendation.

(2) ITEM: Shimming of Steering Assembly for the 5 Ton M-Series Trucks.

(a) OBSERVATION: An unusually high number of 5 ton M-series trucks have been received at this DSU for shimming of steering assemblies.

(b) EVALUATION: Upon inspection of these steering assemblies and removal of the constant velocity joints, it was found that the spacer washer FSN 5310-033-6007, was missing from the axle shaft in a great percentage of the assemblies inspected, thus causing the malfunctions.

(c) RECOMMENDATION: That emphasis be given in appropriate publications to insure the replacement of the spacer washer when the constant velocity joints are scheduled for organizational maintenance. This headquarters has submitted an appropriate Equipment Improvement Recommendation.

(3) ITEM: Malfunction of Injector Pump, FSN 2910-759-5410, for Truck 2½ Ton M35A1.

(a) OBSERVATION: This DSU is experiencing a high rate of replacement in injector pumps of the 2½ ton series with supported units.

(b) EVALUATION: It is apparent that operators are not periodically tightening the motor mount bolts of the engine thus resulting in the steering section and the injector pump striking against each other causing the injector pumps to break.

(c) RECOMMENDATION: That using units insure that motor mounts are checked and tightened during daily motor stables or on a regular basis to preclude the damage to the injector pump. This headquarters has submitted an appropriate Equipment Improvement Recommendation.

(4) ITEM: Windshield Bumper for Truck ½ Ton M151A2 Series.

(a) OBSERVATION: Many units are experiencing difficulty in getting replacement windshield bumpers.

(b) EVALUATION: At the present time, windshield bumpers have become almost a non-supply item due to lack of supply information pertaining to its i.e., FSN and/or part number.

(c) RECOMMENDATION: That units request clutch and brake pedal rubber bumpers, FSN 5340-678-1A31, which is a like item and is interchangeable with the bumper and that this information be made available in appropriate publications. This headquarters has submitted an appropriate Equipment Improvement Recommendation.

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(5) ITEM: Bearing Failure in 10KW Generator Set

(a) OBSERVATION: The following bearings on Generator Set 10KW, model SF10MP, FSN 6115-075-1641, fail frequently:

- (1) Bearing Ball, annular, inner, FSN 3110-156-5246
- (2) Bearing Ball, annular, outer, FSN 3110-198-1975

(b) EVALUATION: The failure of those bearings appear to be caused by inadequate lubrication rather than normal wear and friction.

(c) RECOMMENDATION: Since these are sealed bearings, it is recommended that either a more durable bearing or a lubricant of heavier viscosity be used. This headquarters has submitted an appropriate Equipment Improvement Recommendation.

(6) ITEM: Loader, Scoop Model 645M, FSN 3805-051-9359.

(a) OBSERVATION: Recently this DSU has received four (4) vehicles of this type which had experienced front axle and brake failure.

(b) EVALUATION: This problem is caused by the breaking of the brake shoe return spring, FSN 2530-133-9973. The failure of this spring caused further damage to wheel cylinders, brake shoe assembly, and brake drum due to continued operation of the vehicle after the malfunction.

(c) RECOMMENDATION: That a stronger type brake shoe return spring be used and that equipment operators be cautioned against operating this equipment after failure of this spring has been detected. This headquarters has submitted an appropriate Equipment Improvement Recommendation.

(7) ITEM: Bearing Failure on M158 Recoil Mount for M110 and M107 SP Artillery

(a) OBSERVATION: Numerous M158 recoil mounts have experienced a premature failure of the equilibrator trunion bearing, FSN 3110-156-1423.

(b) EVALUATION: Disassembly of unserviceable bearings has revealed a lack of adequate lubrication to protect the bearing thus causing the life of the bearing to be shortened considerably. There are at this time no grease fittings present to accommodate lubrication of this bearing.

(c) RECOMMENDATION: That two (2) grease fittings be installed on each guide assembly thus allowing for lubrication of the bearing during quarterly maintenance service. This headquarters has submitted an appropriate Equipment Improvement Recommendation.

(8) ITEM: Gun, Field Artillery, Self-Propelled, 175mm, M107/Howitzer, Heavy Self-Propelled, 8 Inch, M110.

(a) OBSERVATION: Within a six (6) month period this Battalion has received for repair five (5) M107/M110 self-propelled guns with cracked fuel cells.

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(b) Evaluation: Fuel cells in these gun chassis have a history of repeated failures. Upon each failure it requires moving the gun from the fire base and evacuating it to our DSU for repair. Repairs are made using standard welding procedures as directed by pertinent TM's. It is noted that even though the cell is properly repaired, the cells invariably rupture again near the vicinity of the first rupture. This failure is causing an excessive amount of down time for this critical equipment.

(c) RECOMMENDATION: That a neoprene liner be devised which can be inserted into the fuel cell of the guns now in use. That future production of these chassis have a neoprene fuel cell as standard equipment. This headquarters has submitted an appropriate Equipment Improvement Recommendation.

3. (U) Section 3, Headquarters, Department of the Army Survey Information: None.

2 Incl
as


JOHN M. MANZO
LTC, ORD
Commanding

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AVCA-QN-PK-GO (10 May 1970) 1st Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 62d Maint Bn (DS) for Quarterly Period
Ending 30 April 1970 (RCS CSFOR-65) (R-1) (U)

DA, HQ, 45th General Support Group, APO 96318

24 May 1970

THRU: Commanding General, USASUPCOM, QNH, ATTN: AVCA-QN-GO-H, APO 96238

TO: Commanding General, 1st Log Command, ATTN: AVCA-GO-O, APO 96307

1. (U) The basic report has been reviewed by this headquarters.

2. (U) Concur with inclosed report.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

TEL: PKU 2528/2595


JOHN D. MILLENER
1LT, OrdC
Asst Adjutant

AVCA-QN-GO-H (10 May 70) 2nd Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 62d Maint Bn (DS) for Quarterly Period
Ending 30 April 1970 (ACS CSFOR-65) (R-2) (U)

DA, Headquarters, US Army Support Command, Qui Nhon, APO 96238 JUN 4 1970

TO: Commanding General, 1st Logistical Command, ATTN: AVCA-GO-0,
APO 96384

1. The Operational Report - lessons Learned submitted by Headquarters,
62d maintenance Battalion for the quarterly period ending 30 April 1970
is forwarded.

2. Pertinent comments follow:

a. Reference item concerning pre-passing of fringe requests para 2c.
Concur. The 62nd Maintenance Battalion should contact Computer Systems
Command, Ft Belvoir, VA, which controls all programming, to explain the
situation and request an appropriate program.

b. Reference item concerning personnel training para 2e. Concur.
Recommendation should be passed to higher headquarters.

c. Reference item concerning distribution of technical publications
para 2f. Concur. Pinpoint distribution should be expanded. The unit
should contact AG Administrative Services of this headquarters.

d. Reference item concerning materiel para 2h. Concur. Since
Equipment Improvement Recommendations have been submitted, no further
action is required of this headquarters.

3. The report is considered adequate as modified by the above comments.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

R E Shibley
R. E. SHIBLEY
CPT, AGC
Assistant Adjutant General

CP:
62d Maint Bn
45th GS Gp

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AVHGC-DST (10 May 70) 3d Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report-Lessons Learned 62d Maintenance Battalion
(DS) Period ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFGR - 65 (R2)

Headquarters, United States Army Vietnam, APO San Francisco 96375

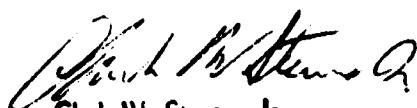
07 JUN 1970

TO: Commander in Chief, United States Army Pacific, ATTN: GPOP-DT,
APO 96558

1. (U) This Headquarters has reviewed the Operational Report-Lessons Learned for the quarterly period ending 30 April 1970 from Headquarters, 62d Maintenance Battalion and comments of indorsing headquarters.

2. (C) Reference item concerning "Pre-passing of Fringe Requests with the NCR-500 System," page 5, paragraph c:nonconcur. The customer's request cannot be used as input for two reasons; fringe item requests normally are not prepunched but prepared manually by the customer, and if a prepunched request arrives, the DSU document number must be keypunched. Therefore, requiring the need for at least one keypunch operation. The number of keypunch operations can be reduced to one without developing a new program by using the following technique. At the time of edit it can be determined by the use of a fringe file edit whether or not a magnetic ledger has been prepared. If it is determined that no ledger exists, take the fringe request to the keypunch operator. The keypunch operator punches the fringe request in card format, puts a blank card at the punch station and manually punches A&P-80 and duplicates the rest of the card. The A&P card will be sent forward and the duplicated card will be put in suspense with Post-Post written on it until a ledger is made with a Data Four Card. The A&P's are then pulled from suspense and put in a work package; the output will provide a Due-in, AE2 status card and a Due-out card. Unit has been so advised.

FOR THE COMMANDER:



Clark W. Stevens Jr.

Captain, USA

Assistant Adjutant General

Cy furn:
USASUPCOM-QNH
62d Maintenance Bn

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GPOP-DT (20 May 70) 4th Ind (U)

SUBJECT: Operational Report of HQ, 62d Maintenance Battalion (DS) for
Period Ending 30 April 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2) (U)

HQ, US Army, Pacific, APO San Francisco 96558 21 JUL 70

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development, Department of the
Army, Washington, D. C. 20310

This headquarters concurs in subject report as indorsed.

FOR THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF:


L.M. OZAKI
CPT, AGC
Asst AG

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OPERATIONAL REPORT FOR QUARTERLY PERIOD
ENDING 30 APRIL 1970

62D MAINT BN (DS)

PERSONNEL STATUS AS OF 30 APRIL 1970

	<u>AUTHORIZED</u>				<u>ASSIGNED</u>			
	<u>OFF</u>	<u>WO</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>WO</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
HQ & MAIN SPT CO	15	5	255	275	13	8	232	253
149TH LIGHT MAINT CO	4	4	175	183	2	2	128	132
794TH MAINT CO	4	5	171	180	2	6	166	174
294TH HM STORAGE DET	0	1	8	9	0	1	0	1
484TH SIG DET	0	1	5	6	0	1	1	2
861ST SIG DET (RDR)	0	1	8	9	0	0	5	5
	<u>23</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>622</u>	<u>662</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>532</u>	<u>561</u>

	<u>OFF</u>	<u>WO</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
PERCENT SHORT	26%	0%	13%	15%
ACTUAL SHORT	6	0	90	95
PERCENT OVER	0%	6%	0%	0%
ACTUAL OVER	0	1	0	0

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Inc 1

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 62D MAINTENANCE BATTALION (DS)
APO SAN FRANCISCO 96318

QUARTERLY PRODUCTION REPORT

COMMODITY	O/H BEG	TOTAL RCVD	COMP	FEBRUARY		MARCH		APRIL	
				O/H END	TOTAL RCVD	COMP	O/H END	TOTAL RCVD	COMP
TRACT & COMB VEH	53	762	781	34	748	737	41	676	674
Hvy const & MBS	13	75	75	13	54	56	11	57	50
GENERATORS	14	113	102	25	96	104	17	74	79
SPEC PUR EQUIP	67	477	495	49	399	369	79	492	509
ARMAMENT	21	71	52	40	48	67	*1	66	65
SMALL ARMS	38	2195	2207	26	1111	1080	57	1744	1731
FIELD RADIO	134	419	427	126	156	514	68	488	451
RADIO RELAY	18	53	48	23	40	54	9	15	16
WIRE & TELE	99	239	304	34	358	360	32	278	279
SPEC ELECT EQUIP	93	220	269	44	220	196	68	213	213
OTHER LIGHT GND	746	3394	3365	775	2928	3319	384	2042	1786
									640

* Armament deferred maintenance job orders are dropped as backlog

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Security Classification

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DOCUMENT CONTROL DATA - R & D

(Security classification of title, body of abstract and indexing annotation must be entered when the overall report is classified)

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	3d. GROUP 4

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6. DESCRIPTIVE NOTES (Type of report and inclusive dates)

Experiences of unit engaged in counterinsurgency operations 1 Feb to 30 Apr 70.

7. AUTHOR(S) (First name, middle initial, last name)

CO, 62d Maintenance Battalion

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13. ABSTRACT

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